

Roads targeted for repair and repaving

By TOM BENSON
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DUXBURY — The town will use nearly \$400,000 in state money to rebuild or repave more than six miles of roads by next summer if a bill authorizing \$150 million to pay for local road repair is signed by Gov. Paul Cellucci.

Public works Director Walter Tonaszuck said yesterday that the town plans to rebuild portions of Standish Street and Park Street while repaving part or all of 14 other streets.

"It's very important because this is basically how we maintain our roads," Tonaszuck said. "Our roads are in good shape because we've been able to put money into our roads."

The work will likely be done in the spring.

DUXBURY

Requests for specific work must be approved by the state, and Tonaszuck said that by the time approval came through, it would likely be too late in the calendar year for paving work.

The Legislature approved \$150 million in bonds to finance road and bridge repairs in towns throughout the state last week. Cellucci has not signed the bill and is expected to make a decision by the end of this week.

The town maintains a five-year plan for road repair, which it updates every year. The bond amount has been the same in recent years, and Tonaszuck said he budgeted the

same amount of state money each year.

If only \$50 million were authorized, as the governor recommended, each town would get one-third of its expected amount.

"We would do one-third of the work," he said. "We'd be in a deficit position. Our roads would deteriorate very quickly."

The town expects the average road to last about 20 years, meaning that about six miles of road must be repaved or repaired every year to maintain the 20-year cycle, Tonaszuck explained.

If the bill passes, the town will receive \$399,188, based on a state formula that uses population and miles of roadway to determine the amount of money allocated, Tonaszuck said.

The planned work for the current fiscal year includes rebuilding Standish Street from Marshall Street to Crescent Street, and Park Street from Route 3A to Loring Road.

The town will also do repaving work on Bow Street, Church Street, Flintlocke Drive, Franklin Terrace, Holly Tree Lane, Josselyn Avenue, Keene Street, Oakwood Road, Soule Avenue, South Street, Temple Street, Templewood Drive, Tremont Street and Water Street.

Tonaszuck is president of the Plymouth County Highway Association, which lobbied for the bill. Rep. Thomas O'Brien, D-Kingston, credited the advocacy of public works directors with helping get the bill passed.